

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations
and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,
please do not report the images to the
Image Problem Mailbox.**

Serial No. 10/662,542

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A traction plate assembly for ~~mounting on~~ rigid mounting to an equestrian stirrup, said stirrup including a yoke and a foot plate connected to said yoke, said traction plate assembly comprising:
 - a top plate, said top plate having a top traction surface and a bottom mounting surface, said top plate received above said foot plate;
 - a mounting plate, said mounting plate received below said foot plate; and
 - fasteners, said fasteners extending through said mounting plate and said foot plate into the bottom surface of said top plate, said fasteners holding said mounting plate and said top plate in rigid assembled relation with said foot plate, wherein said traction plate cannot be displaced relative to said foot plate.
2. (original) The traction plate assembly of Claim 1, wherein said top plate and said mounting plate are aluminum.
3. (original) The traction plate assembly of Claim 2, wherein said traction surface is knurled.
4. (original) The traction plate assembly of Claim 2, wherein said traction surface is milled to include raised traction enhancing structures.

Serial No. 10/662,542

5. (currently amended) The traction plate assembly of Claim 1, further comprising:

a ~~compressible~~ friction enhancing pad received between said bottom surface of said top plate and said foot plate.

6. (original) The traction plate assembly of Claim 1, wherein said fasteners are screws.

7. (original) The traction plate assembly of Claim 6, further comprising:

mounting lugs formed on said bottom surface of said top plate, said mounting lugs having openings therein to receive said screws, said foot plate having a thickness, said mounting lugs extending from said bottom surface of said top plate a distance less than the thickness of said foot plate.

8. (original) The traction plate assembly of Claim 1, wherein said top plate has a first end and a second end, said top plate including at least one notch in one end thereof, said notch corresponding to said yoke at the point where said yoke contacts said foot plate.

9. (original) The traction plate assembly of Claim 8, wherein said top plate includes one notch at each end thereof.

Serial No. 10/662,542

10. (currently amended) A stirrup assembly comprising:

an equestrian stirrup, said stirrup including a yoke, said yolk having two rigid arms and a foot plate rigidly connected to said arms, wherein said foot plate is not displaceable relative to said yoke; and

a traction plate assembly including:

a top plate, said top plate having a top traction surface and a bottom mounting surface, said top plate received above said foot plate,

a mounting plate, said mounting plate received below said foot plate, and

fasteners, said fasteners extending through said mounting plate and said foot plate into the bottom surface of said top plate, said fasteners holding said mounting plate and said top plate in rigid assembled relation with said foot plate, wherein said traction plate cannot be displaced relative to said foot plate.

11. (original) The stirrup assembly of Claim 10, wherein said top plate and said mounting plate are aluminum.

12. The stirrup assembly of Claim 11, wherein said traction surface is knurled.

Serial No. 10/662,542

13. (original) The stirrup assembly of Claim 11, wherein said traction surface is milled to include raised traction enhancing structures.

14. (currently amended) The stirrup assembly of Claim 10, further comprising:

a compressible friction enhancing pad received between said bottom surface of said top plate and said foot plate.

15. (original) The stirrup assembly of Claim 10, wherein said fasteners are screws.

16. (original) The stirrup assembly of Claim 15, further comprising:

mounting lugs formed on said bottom surface of said top plate, said mounting lugs having openings therein to receive said screws, said foot plate having a thickness, said mounting lugs extending from said bottom surface of said top plate a distance less than the thickness of said foot plate.

17. (original) The stirrup assembly of Claim 10, wherein said top plate has a first end and a second end, said top plate including at least one notch in one end thereof, said notch corresponding to one of said arms of said yoke at the point where said arm contacts said foot plate.

Serial No. 10/662,542

18. (original) The stirrup assembly of Claim 17, wherein said top plate includes one notch at each end thereof.